



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm and
Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm
Service
Agency

Arkansas
State Office

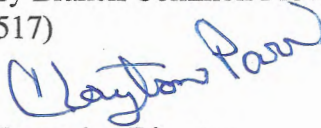
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May 10, 2017

TO: Chris Beyerhelm
Acting Administrator
Farm Service Agency

THROUGH: Program Policy Branch/Common Provisions Section (PPB/CPS)
(Stop Code 0517)

FROM: Clayton Parr 
Acting State Executive Director

SUBJECT: Request for Secretarial Disaster Designation

State: Arkansas

Initial request submitted by: Casie Person, Farm Loan Support Specialist

Date of initial request: May 10, 2017

Primary counties requested:

| | | | | |
|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Ashley | Craighead | Lonoke | Perry | St. Francis |
| Boone | Faulkner | Madison | Poinsett | White |
| Carroll | Independence | Mississippi | Prairie | Woodruff |
| Clay | Jackson | Monroe | Pulaski | |
| Conway | Lawrence | Newton | Randolph | |

Beginning date of disaster incident period: April 1, 2017

Ending date of disaster incident period: Continuing

Disaster Description:

Excessive rain, flash flooding, flooding, hail, high winds, and lightning

Background:

All Counties experienced 30% Losses County wide or had producers that experienced a 30% loss in one or more crops, as indicated by the STORM reports. Physical damages were also experienced and an Administrative request has also been submitted.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

MINUTES

ARKANSAS STATE EMERGENCY BOARD, SED, MEETING

A meeting of the Arkansas State Emergency Board was held by conference call at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday May 10, 2017. Members participating were as followed:

Clayton Parr, Acting State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency

Marilyn Brown, Associate Regional Attorney, Office of General Council

Cynthia Edwards, Deputy Secretary, Arkansas Agriculture Department

Eugene Young, Regional Director, National Agriculture Statistics Service

Mark Cutner, Arkansas Forestry Commission

Tina Owens, Deputy Director, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management

Clinton King, Rural Development

Mike Sullivan, State Conservationist, Natural Recourse Conservation Service

Walt Delp, State Engineer, Natural Recourse Conservation Service

Randy Childress, Assistant State Conservationist, Natural Recourse Conservation Service

Roddric Bell, RMA

Jimmy Wortham, Animal Plant Health Services

Robert Moery, Arkansas Governor's Office

Courtney Massey, Arkansas Governor's Office

Bobby Coats, University of Arkansas Extension Service

Victor Ford, University of Arkansas Extension Service

Anita Wilson, Farm Program Chief, Farm Service Agency

Diana Colvard, Farm Program Specialist, Farm Service Agency

Jason Shook, Farm Program Specialist, Farm Service Agency

Casie Person, Farm Loan Support Specialist, Farm Service Agency

The meeting was called to address the damages and losses to crops due to the effects of severe weather, including excessive rains, flash flooding, flooding, hail, high winds and lightning that occurred April 1st and continuing. The 22 Counties in Arkansas affected include:

| | | | | |
|---------|--------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Ashley | Craighead | Lonoke | Perry | St. Francis |
| Boone | Faulkner | Madison | Poinsett | White |
| Carroll | Independence | Mississippi | Prairie | Woodruff |
| Clay | Jackson | Monroe | Pulaski | |
| Conway | Lawrence | Newton | Randolph | |

The committee unanimously concurred with FSA's request for a disaster declaration from the Secretary of Agriculture, along with the information and documentation submitted by the Farm Service Agency Field Offices. The designation will allow the Farm Service Agency to make emergency loans, ERF, ECP, NAP, TAP, LIP, and ELAP payments available to eligible farmers and ranchers whose livelihoods have been affected by these natural disasters.

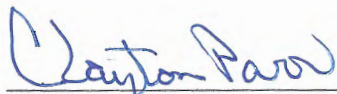
The committee also discussed the May 9th request for an Administrative Disaster Designation for the physical losses due to the excessive rains, flash flooding, flooding, hail, high winds, lightning and tornadoes that occurred April 1st and continuing affecting the following 37 Arkansas Counties:

| | | | | |
|----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Arkansas | Craighead | Lawrence | Poinsett | Van Buren |
| Baxter | Cross | Lonoke | Prairie | Washington |
| Benton | Drew | Madison | Pulaski | White |
| Boone | Faulkner | Marion | Randolph | Woodruff |
| Carroll | Fulton | Mississippi | Searcy | Yell |
| Clay | Independence | Newton | Sharp | |
| Cleburne | Izard | Perry | St. Francis | |
| Conway | Jackson | Phillips | Stone | |

The news letters FSA has sent out through GovDelivery were passed out to the attendees and will be provided to those attendees that called into the meeting. The news letters provided information on programs available to assist with disasters.

NRCS discussed EWP and other programs available to individuals and county governments affected by the flood.

Having no other business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:15 a.m.



Clayton Parr
USDA, State Emergency Board Chair